site. The sutures and ligatures of the arteries were properly attended to and removed. Adhesion of the soft parts progressed rapidly and regularly to complete re-union with little pain or trouble.

"By means of the brace on the apparatus the limb was gradually straightened until brought very nearly straight, but agreeable to the suggestion of Dr. Barton, a very slight angularity was maintained intentionally, in order to prevent his heel, in walking, from striking against any obstacle or inequality which might be in the way. The double-inclined plane was then thrown aside, and the limb placed in the ordinary straight box used in common fractures, where it was kept for better than three months, at the expiration of which time he allowed to move about on a crutch, as the bones had knitted together pretty well."

In the month of June, 1842, he could walk about on his leg without the use of a staff, and went to work. But on the 15th of July, of the same year, in attempting to mount a ladder he missed his footing, and in the fall broke his leg again at the point of operation. As he had complained of his foot hurting in the instep, at the metatarsus and toes, especially when he walked much, and when standing on logs chopping, when it was reset the last time, it was placed in the straight box without any angŭlarity, being quite straight. No bad results followed this fracture, and in less than two months he was able to be up and about again, and could walk very well without crutch or staff.

Dr. Kilpatrick says that he saw the patient on the 15th April, 1844, busily engaged in spading up the garden. He told Dr. K. that he could hoe and chop with as much ease as ever he did; and ploughing was not irksome to him.

Self-propelling Power of the Blood.—Dr. Horace Green made the following communication on this subject to the New York Medical and Surgical Society.

"Opposite opinions," remarked Dr. G., "are still entertained by physiologists on this subject. Treviranus, Oesterreicher, Wolff, and several other microscopists, declare, that 'the blood is endued with the power of self-propulsion,' which they suppose to be exerted in the capillaries, during life, independently of the heart's action, and to continue after the latter has ceased; while, on the other hand, Baer, Wedemeyer, and, more recently, Müller, deny as positively the existence of a self-propelling power in the blood.

"Having been engaged of late in making some microscopic observations upon the blood and other animal fluids, this subject, said Dr. Green, among others, had engaged his attention; and he supposed it might not be uninteresting to the Society to hear the result of some experiments which have been directed to this point.

"Müller, who denies the existence of a power in the blood, independent of the heart's action, allows that there are two conditions under which the blood in the capillaries of a transparent part, separated from the body, may still be seen in motion by means of the microscope. One, where the blood continues to flow from divided vessels—the escape of the blood from the openings of these divided trunks imparting or causing a motion of the blood in the minute vessels toward the openings in the larger ones. The second condition under which motion is perceptible, is, when the direct rays of the sun are allowed to fall on a moist part separated from the body. The surface of the part thus becomes dry and wrinkled, and this constriction causes a rapid emptying of the capillary vessels, which, together with the effect of illumination by the direct rays of the sun, produces a flickering appearance; and in this way he imagines opposing observers have been deceived. Dr. G. has himself observed, in numerous instances, motion of the blood in capillary vessels, active and continued, independent of the heart's action, when the above condition of things could not have existed.

"By placing under the field of the microscope the most transparent part of the web of the foot of a very small frog, Dr. G. has observed many capillary vessels so minute as to be capable of admitting only a single fill of red globules. These globules may often be seen running different directions in parallel vessels; and, not unfrequently, single globules, and sometimes two or three together, may be observed, separated apparently at a considerable distance from any others, and yet, moving on slowly in some instances, and rapidly in others, independent of any *vis a tergo* power; so that, as the contractile power of the capillaries (except so far as regards the natural elasticity of their coats), is denied by these physiologists, the motion of these single globules must be independent of the heart's action, and dependent on an inherent power of their own. Not only this, but not unfrequently in watching the current of globules in these minute vessels, Dr. G. says that he has observed them to be suddenly arrested, and then to *recede* for some distance along the course of the vessel. This phenomena is accounted for by Müller, on the supposition that the vessels may have been compressed by slight motions of the frog. This could not have been the case, said Dr. G., in one instance which he recently noticed, where a capillary vessel was seen to pass directly through the centre of a pigment cell, in a frog's foot. In this vessel, red globules were seen repeatedly to run in *different directions* in the same vessel, and to pass each other in the centre of the cell. If the motion of the blood in the capillaries is entirely dependent upon the heart's action, how can we account for this power being exerted in different directions in the same vessel?

"Other evidences, said Dr. G., of this inherent power of the blood have been observed. Having removed an elongated uvula, a few days since, the most transparent portion of the truncated part was placed under the field of the microscope. Upwards of half an hour after the part was exercised, the blood was seen to move slowly along the capillary vessels; and yet, the precaution was taken to keep the piece moistened, so that the vessels might not contract from drying.

"Dr. Carpenter designates this motive force of the blood, the 'capillary power' of this fluid; and he believes that we are furnished with all the proof that can be needed of the existence, even in the highest animals, of a capillary power, which, though usually subordinate to the heart's action, is sufficiently strong to maintain the circulation by itself, when the power of the central organ is diminished. But the term which he employs, capillary power, is evidently inappropriate, inasmuch as this power remains in the globules *after* they are withdrawn from the capillaries. By placing a drop of fresh arterial blood upon the glass, and examining it with the microscope, the globules will be seen to be in active motion for *several minutes* after they are withdrawn from the artery; and in some instances, Dr. G. says that he has observed them to form currents, and to circulate regularly, for a short distance, as if they were still in the capillary vessels. The same vital movements may be observed in a drop of the menstrual fluid, if examined immediately after its escape from the vagina.

"These experiments may tend in some measure to establish the theory that the blood is endued with a vital power of self-propulsion."—*N. York Journ. of Med.*, May, 1844.

Epidemic Erysipelas.—Dr. D. Meeker, in a communication in the Illinois Medical and Surgical Journal, (June 1844), states that the Epidemic Erysipelas made its appearance at Michigan City, Laporte co., Ia., in December, 1843, where it still prevails, though with diminished violence. Of sixty cases, one half have been fatal. "The commencement of the disease," he says, "was generally characterized by lassitude, cold or chilly sensations; in severe attacks, the cold stage lasting for some time, followed by high arterial action. In many cases, some swelling of the tonsillary glands, with an efflorescent or inflamed appearance of the mucous membrane of the fauces existed, with a dryness of the tongue, which was covered with a dark brown coat, neuralgic pains in the situation of the lymphatic glands of the neck, axilla, and frequently of the lower extremities. The inflammation did not make its appearance upon the skin in many cases until the second or third day, and sometimes not until a later period. In other cases, the internal organs became inflamed, without its making its appearance upon the surface at all.

"It seemed to attack the mucous membranes with avidity, extending sometimes from the inflamed fauces to the mucous membrane of the stomach, causing a burning sensation in that region, vomiting, great tenderness upon pressure over